

Star BUSINESS

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আপনার সংসার গুছিয়ে দিচ্ছি আমরা। এসআইবিএল ইসলামিক কনজুমার ফাইন্যান্স।

আপনার সংসার গুছানোর আসবাবপত্র, শিক্ষা সামগ্রী, ইলেক্ট্রনিক ও অন্যান্য জেগোপ্য কেনার সুন্দর সমাধান দিচ্ছি আমরা।

• ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা
যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৯২০০৯২২



India, Bangladesh must create value chains to boost trade

Economist Rehman Sobhan says at a dialogue organised by The Daily Star and IPAG



Eminent economist Prof Rehman Sobhan speaks at a dialogue on "Bangladesh-India relations: progress made and challenges ahead", jointly organised by The Daily Star and the Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance, at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
India and Bangladesh have failed to create value chains in the manner that China has done with its neighbours to spur regional economic development, eminent economist Rehman Sobhan said yesterday.
This has become one of the major

constraints to stimulating exports from Bangladesh to India, which is the third largest economy in the world by purchasing power parity, according to Sobhan.
Prof Sobhan made the comments at a dialogue on Bangladesh-India relations, jointly organised by The Daily Star and the Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance

or IPAG at the newspaper's office in Dhaka.
International production and trade are increasingly organised within global value chains where different stages of production are located across different countries. Globalisation motivates firms to restructure their operations internationally through outsourcing and

offshoring of activities.
Firms try to optimise their production by locating different activities across different sites.
The past decades have witnessed a strong trend towards the dispersion of value chain activities such as design, production, marketing and distribution.
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Submarine cable installation halted by high tide

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

High tide in the Bay of Bengal has halted the installation works of the second submarine cable for a few months now -- a development that will delay the country's connection to the undersea information super highway by a year.
The installation works, which were fully suspended in May, will not resume before November, when the strength of the tide is expected to subside, said a senior official of state-owned Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Ltd (BSCCL).
The initial plan was to connect with the cable in the first half of 2016, but now it will happen in the first half of next year, said Monwar Hossain, managing director of BSCCL, the country's lone submarine cable company.
"This year, the sea was rougher than in the last few years. That's why we can't work according to our plan," he said, adding that the other works are going on as per schedule.
At present, the cable is nine kilometres away from the seashore at Kuakata of Patuakhali district -- its landing point.
Called the South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 5 (SEA-ME-WE 5), it is an optical fibre submarine communications cable system that will provide telecom services between Southeast Asia and Western Europe.
BSCCL officially joined the consortium of 18 companies from 14 countries after signing a deal in March 2014 to get connected with the 20,000km cable line from Singapore to France.
The project will cost Tk 660.64 crore, and the Islamic Development Bank will provide Tk 352 crore as loan. Of the

remaining amount, the government will provide Tk 166 crore and BSCCL Tk 142.64 crore, according to the project document.
Some members of the consortium have already been connected with the information super highway and are now enjoying high-speed connectivity, according to the official website of SEA-ME-WE 5.
Once the country is connected to the cable, its bandwidth capacity will shoot to 1,300 gigabits per second (Gbps), Hossain said, adding that BSCCL will also be able to slash the bandwidth price.
The country got its first submarine cable connection, SEA-ME-WE 4, in 2006. The cable's capacity is 200 Gbps and more than 130 Gbps of it is currently in use. Initially, the lifespan of the cable was set at 20 years, but it could now be extended by five years.
Bangladesh's total data consumption has crossed the 300-Gbps mark; around 200 Gbps comes from India by way of terrestrial cable connectivity.
Hossain said the country will also be able to export the surplus bandwidth from the SEA-ME-WE 5 cable.
"There is a scarcity of resources in landlocked countries like Nepal and Bhutan and they have already showed interest in importing bandwidth from us," Hossain added.
Apart from the BSCCL, the other companies that joined the consortium include Singapore Telecommunications, China Mobile, China Telecommunications, China Unicom, Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company, Orange, PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia, Saudi Telecom Company, Telekom Malaysia and several companies from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Thailand and India.

Chilli prices spiral for incessant rains

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur
Green chilli prices soared fourfold to Tk 200 a kilogram in a week at the retail level in Dinajpur and its surrounding districts.
Take, for instance, the case of Md Afzal Hossain, who bought 250 grams of green chilli at Tk 50 from Dinajpur Railbazar yesterday. Most of the chilli were very tender and of bad quality.
A week earlier, he purchased the same amount of chilli at Tk 10, and they were fresh and lush green in colour.
One of the most important cooking ingredients for Bangladeshi cuisine, green chilli sold at around Tk 170 a kg in the wholesale market.
The wholesale traders blamed the price spiral on a production slump as a result of incessant rain and floods in the chilli-producing areas. Chilli

plants cannot survive under flood water and heavy rains, according to farmers. However, traders said they had to raise the chilli price as they were buying the product at a higher rate due to supply shortages.
"The crisis deepened during Eid-ul-Azha because of the incessant rains and floods in chilli producing districts," said Rafiqul Islam, a wholesale chilli trader of Bahadurbazar area in Dinajpur.
Besides, the chilli from local orchards in Dinajpur is already finished, he added.
As a result, traders were bringing in chilli from Lalmonirhat, Bogra and Meherpur regularly to meet the local demand.
Around 200 hectares of land has been brought under chilli farming this year, according to the Department of Agricultural Extension in Dinajpur.
"There was no shortage of chilli last

year. But this year its price has gone up as we did not have a good yield," said Golzar Ali, a farmer at Biral upazila in Dinajpur.
Harun Ur Rashid, president of the Importers Group of Hili Land Port, said they are bringing in green chilli from India and selling those at Tk 50 a kg.
Over at Benapole, green chilli sold at Tk 250 a kg in the retail markets yesterday. A week ago, they sold at Tk 80 a kg in the wholesale markets, our Benapole correspondent added.
"The wholesale traders have raised the prices of green chilli as the supply was inadequate. So we had to sell the item at higher prices," said Korban Mia, a retailer at Benapole kitchen market.
The prices of other vegetables also increased drastically at the wholesale and retail levels in Dinajpur, consumers said.

BASIS cancels membership of 168 firms for not paying fees

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services, the trade body for software makers and IT-enabled service providers, has cancelled membership of 168 firms as they failed to pay annual fees for at least three years and update their official documents.
The annual fee per member ranges from Tk 5,000 to Tk 10,000.
The trade body took the decision at a recent meeting of its executive committee. Most of the firms whose membership was cancelled had no trace for

the last few years and they did not maintain any contact with the association, said Mustafa Jabbar, president of BASIS.
"This kind of membership creates burden on the trade body and that's why we took the decision," said Jabbar. "We want to establish BASIS as a vibrant trade body, not a paper-based organisation."
When Jabbar took over as the president a few months back he found membership dues were worth about Tk 85 lakh. After the cancellation of membership, the number of members will now stand at 982.

The trade body still has a number of members who did not pay membership fees in the last two years, insiders said.
"We will cancel membership further in December if the firms fail to clear the charges or maintain regular contact with the association," Jabbar said.
According to rules, membership fees should be paid within the first six months of a year or the membership will be cancelled.
BASIS was established in 1997 with only 17 members with a vision to develop a vibrant software and IT service industry in the country.

তারি উদ্যোজ বিলিযোগ প্রকল্প

ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লি:

বিস্তারিত জানতে ০২-৯৮৯২২২১



Oil prices fall

AFP, London

World oil prices sank lower this week on gloomy market forecasts, profit-taking and ever-present worries over the global supply glut, ahead of a producers' meeting on September 26-28. The Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) set the tone on Tuesday, warning that oil demand growth was slowing while supply was rising.
But fresh data showing mounting US stockpiles of crude and products, and Libya's pledge to sharply boost production and exports within weeks, added to the downward pressure on prices.

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Langkawi	\$530	Shanghai	\$910
Phuket	\$530	Canberra	\$1,250
Denpasar (Bali)	\$590	Melbourne	\$1,250
Hanoi	\$590	Sydney	\$1,250
Ho Chi Minh City	\$590	Frankfurt	\$1,260
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